

STATEMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(c)

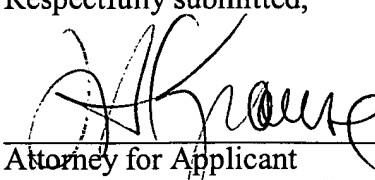
Application 09/161,405 and U.S. Patent 6,002,287 to Ueno et al. were, at the time the invention of application 09/161,405 was made, both owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to Canon Kabushiki Kaisha.

REMARKS

Based on the above statement, under the version of Section 103(c) currently applicable to this application, i.e., the version in effect just prior to November 29, 1999, Ueno et al. may not be used as a reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) against the claims of this application based upon 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(f) or 102(g). If Applicant subsequently files a continuing application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) or a Continued Prosecution Application, Ueno et al. also may not be used as a reference under Section 103(a) against the claims of this application based upon 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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